Amount of loan to Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal

4125. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH KALYAN:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRAN JICHKAR:
SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:
SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(t) the amount of loan and credit given to Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal during the last three years;

(b) the total amount outstanding on those countries;

(c) what is being done for the recovery of the amount; and

(d) what is the target for the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) The amount of credit given to Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal during the last three years is as under:

	Credit (in Rs. crores)		
	Bangladesh	Bhutan	Nepal
1989-90	Nil	Nil	5
1990-91	Nil	Nil	39
1991-92	Nil	Nil	55

(b) The total amount disbursed to Nepal during the last three years has already been repaid.

(c) Does not arise, Sir.

(d) *Bangladesh*: A fresh line of credit of Rs. 30 crores was extended in August, 1991, but this has not been utilised by the Government of Bangladesh so far.

Bhutan: A temporary Standby Credit of Rs. 10 crores has been extended to the Government of Bhutan in March, 1993 for a period of six months. This will be extended automatically for a period of six months each time and will remain in force for a total period of three years.

Nepal: Government of India have agreed to make available to Government of Nepal a stand by credit up to an amount of Rs. 50 crores on a revolving basis. An Agreement in this regard is likely to be signed shortly. The credit arrangement shall be extended for a period of six months at a time and will remain in force for a total period of three years.

Hospitality Grant

4126. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total Hospitality grant of the Government of India;

(b) what are the activities carried out under this grant;

(c) whether any review of this grant has been lately done; and

(d) whether any upward revision of the grant is contemplated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) The total Hospitality Grant of Government of India for the financial year 1992-93 is Rs. 4,85,00,000/- (Rupees four crores eighty five lakhs only).

(b) The Hospitality Grant covers expenditure incurred on:

(i) Visits of Foreign Heads of Governments/Head of States and other officials and dignitaries who are guests of the Government of India. This includes expenditure on board, lodging, local transport, internal travel and route decoration by the CPWD.

(ii) Banquets, lunches and related entertainment for visiting dignitaries and officials.

(iii) Entertainment and catering for VVIPs calling on the Prime Minister as also inflight catering during PMs internal air travel.

(iv) Maintenance of State Guest House at Hyderabad House.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) An increase of 18.5 per cent over the current budget has been sought for the financial year 1993-94.

Pilgrimage to Manasarover in China

4127. SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pilgrims who have travelled to Manasarover in China during 1992-93;

(b) what is the procedure to give permission for travel to Manasarover;

(c) what are the facilities accorded to Members of Parliament for travel to Manasarover; and

(d) what are the difficulties faced by travellers to Mansarover?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) The number of pilgrims who travelled to Mansarovar in China in 1992-93 was 233.

(b) and (c) Government invites applications from all Indian nationals, including Members of Parliament interested in undertaking the Kailash-Mansarovar yatra. Selection is basically made on a lottery basis, since the number of applications received each year is far in excess of the number of berths available.

(d) Some travellers to Kailash-Mansarovar have asked for improvements in transportation, boarding and lodging in Tibet, which are not matters under our control.

Pakistan's ISI to start Civil War in India

4128. CHOWDHARY HARI SINGH:
SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pakistan's Inter Services Intelligence propose to start a civil war in India as reported in the Indian Express dated the 16th March, 1993;

(b) if so, whether the Government have since contemplated any measures to defuse the activities of Pakistan's Inter Services Intelligence;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government propose to take up the issue in UN; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) to (c) Government have seen the Press report in this regard. Government is fully vigilant to counter destablisation efforts instigated from inside or outside the country.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

4129. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of travellers and pilgrims who have travelled to Tibet region of China;

(b) whether some of the pilgrims face any difficulty while in Tibet; if so, the details thereof;